

CONFIGURATION OF NETWORK APPLIANCES VIA E-MAIL

ABSTRACT

A method for configuring a network appliance with instructions sent by e-mail. A mail recipient on the appliance, either a mail client or a mail server, receives an e-mail containing instructions. The appliance then configures itself according to the instructions. The instructions may be parsed into instructions at the appliance or the instructions may arrive in a command format that does not require parsing. The appliance may have a persistent network connection or may connect to the network occasionally.